FY 2009 Capital Budget TPS Report 48900

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development** 

Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)
Grant Recipient: Ketchikan (City of)

**Project Title:** 

# Ketchikan (City of) - City of Ketchikan Fire Station No. 1 Replacement Project

State Funding Requested: \$ 5,328,216 House District: 1 - A

One-Time Need

## **Brief Project Description:**

Funding will construct a new fire station in Ketchikan providing better fire protection, emergency services, and compliance with state and federal regulations.

**Funding Plan:** 

Total Cost of Project: \$10,656,432

<u>Funding Secured</u> <u>Other Pending Requests</u> <u>Anticipated Future Need</u>

Amount FY Amount FY Amount FY

Local Funds \$5,328,216 Total \$5,328,216

## **Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Funding will replace an antiquated fire station in Ketchikan through construction of a new facility. The City of Ketchikan is seeking an appropriation of \$5,328,216 to be applied towards the cost of the new facility. The City will fund the balance of the project through general obligation bonds. The City of is currently undertaking planning and design of a new 79,730 sq. ft. facility, which will include a fully functional Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The estimated cost of the new fire station, which will be constructed on municipally owned property adjacent to the City Police Department, is \$10,656,432.

The City of Ketchikan has long been recognized as a leader in Southeast Alaska for the delivery of emergency response services. The City Fire Department coordinated and established the first Level A Hazardous Materials Response Team in Southeast Alaska and has expanded its responses capabilities to include marine vessels and aircraft. The City has been instrumental in driving collaborations and cooperative agreements for regional response teams. As the department has moved forward in meeting the needs of the community and region, it has outgrown the building that it currently occupies.

Fire Station No. 1, located in the center of downtown Ketchikan, was constructed in 1944 and is no longer an effective or safe facility. The building is not ADA, NFPA, OSHA or FEMA compliant. The building's structural integrity, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and HVAC systems have been rated as deficient. The building has insufficient offices, training facilities and employee accommodations to meet the needs of the personnel assigned to the facility and to adequately support the emergency response services for which the structure was originally intended. In order to work within the building's existing space, fire apparatus and ambulances have had to be custom ordered, increasing the cost of equipment acquisition.

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Contact Name: Sonia Christensen

Contact Number: 4858

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In the absence of such an appropriation, it is unlikely that this project will move forward and the community of Ketchikan will continue to be disadvantaged by the absence of a fully functional Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

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FY09-FY10: The construction of the new facility is scheduled to be completed within two years, dependent upon funding.

### **Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

City of Ketchikan

### **Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Contact Name: Richard Leipfert Phone Number: (907) 225-5942 Address: 334 Front Street KTN, AK Email: richl@city.ketchikan.ak.us

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? X Yes No

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# THE COMMUNITY OF KETCHIKAN



# City of Ketchikan Fire Station No. 1 Replacement Project

FUNDING REQUEST			
REQUESTED	\$5,328,216		
MATCHING/LOCAL	\$5,328,216		
TOTAL	\$10,656,432		

#### **PROJECT SUMMARY:**

The City of Ketchikan has long been recognized as a leader in Southeast Alaska for the delivery of emergency response services. The City Fire Department coordinated and established the first Level A Hazardous Materials Response Team in Southeast Alaska and has expanded its responses capabilities to include marine vessels and aircraft. The City has been instrumental in driving collaborations and cooperative agreements for regional response teams. As the department has moved forward in meeting the needs of the community and region, it has outgrown the building that it currently occupies. The City is currently undertaking planning and design of a new 79,730 sq. ft. facility, which will include a fully functional Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The estimated cost of the new fire station, which will be constructed on municipally owned property adjacent to the City Police Department, is \$10,656,432.

#### **PROJECT HISTORY/STATUS:**

Fire Station No. 1, which is located in the center of downtown Ketchikan, was constructed in 1944 and has outlived its useful life. The building is not ADA, NFPA, OSHA or FEMA compliant. The existing building's structural integrity is questionable and the mechanical, electrical, plumbing and HVAC systems have been rated as deficient. The building has insufficient offices, training facilities and employee accommodations to meet the needs of the personnel assigned to the facility and to adequately support the emergency response services for which the structure was originally intended. As the Ketchikan Fire Department has continued to outgrow the space available, renovation of the structure is not a viable alternative. In order to work within the building's existing space, fire apparatus and ambulances have had to be custom ordered, increasing the cost of equipment acquisition.

#### **PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST:**

The City of Ketchikan is seeking an appropriation of \$5,328,216 to be applied towards the cost of the new facility. The City will fund the balance of the project through general obligation bonds. In the absence of such an appropriation, it is unlikely that this project will move forward and the community of Ketchikan will continue to be disadvantaged by the absence of a fully functional Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

# **North Tongass Fire Department**

Construction Progress from previous State Appropriations

## From this:





To this: Training Room (\$78,000 appropriation)





Training Room (\$78,000 appropriation)





# Office & living areas:







Tucked away in our stations:

Station 6 (75% Complete)



Station 8 (65% Complete)





April 25, 2008

The Honorable Sarah Palin Governor of the State of Alaska PO Box 110001 Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

#### Dear Governor Palin:

I am writing this letter to encourage your favorable consideration of the various capital projects for the City of Ketchikan that are funded in the FY '09 capital budget approved by the Legislature.

I know that, as a former mayor, you appreciate the significance of well-conceived capital projects for their positive impacts on the quality of life in the community.

Projects specific to the City of Ketchikan approved by the Legislature include:

- City of Ketchikan Fire Station No. 1 Replacement Project: \$5,328,216
- City of Ketchikan Ketchikan General Hospital Surgical Suite Expansion: \$4,400,000
- City of Ketchikan Port of Ketchikan Berths I and II Replacement Projects: \$3,000,000
- Knudson Cove Harbor Reconstruction: \$350,000
- City of Ketchikan Design of Baranof Water Reservoir Replacement: \$150,000

I also want to note our support for two projects, which, while technically not City of Ketchikan projects, have received substantial financial contributions from the City due to the importance they play in helping the community in its economic recovery after the loss of the timber industry.

- Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority Ketchikan Shipyard Power Generation & Infrastructure Improvements: \$3,000,000
- Oceans Alaska Shellfish Industry Training Center: \$1,000,000

Needless to say, the City also supports appropriations approved for other local governments and organizations.

I want to briefly emphasize a couple of important points.

1. Extensive local public process: We had an extensive public process at the local level to determine our capital project priority requests that we forwarded to our legislators. We held a number of public meetings at which citizens of Ketchikan were given the opportunity to review and suggest projects. There was significant local participation.

From there the list of potential capital project requests was then forwarded to the City Council for its consideration and approval. In sum, all of our project requests, including those which were

funded, went through a public process and eventual consideration and prioritization by local government. In fact, all major appropriations approved by the Legislature for City of Ketchikan-specific projects were in the top 6 priorities for entire community, i.e., after consideration of projects submitted by other local governments and organizations.

2. Significant local funding: The three major City projects in the approved capital budget involve a significant level of local funding. The City anticipates fully matching the \$5.3 million in state funds appropriated to replace our 66-year-old central fire station. The City anticipates significant local funds being used to match \$4.4 million in state funds for the proposed surgery suite at Ketchikan General Hospital that will replace the existing 42-year-old surgery area; in the first two phases of the master plan we have financed in excess of \$21 million for capital improvements to the City-owned facility. The \$3 million appropriation for the Port of Ketchikan is designated for an estimated \$20 million project to replace old cruise ship berths in Ketchikan. The City has already expended or committed \$4.2 million in local funding for this project; we have also recently completed a \$38 million port improvement project that was 100% locally financed. In sum, I believe that the City is stepping up to the plate with our own funds to commit to these projects.

In closing I would like to thank you for your hard work on behalf of the entire State of Alaska. I hope that as you review the capital projects for the City of Ketchikan you will agree that the projects all serve a public purpose and that they are critical infrastructure projects which are deserving of state financial participation.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

**Bob Weinstein** 

Mayor

cc:

Karen Rehfeld, Director of OMB

Senator Bert Stedman

Representative Kyle Johansen